



SITUATION REPORT #15 2008 WATER SHORTAGE EMERGENCY

Published August 27, 2008 at 0900 Hours

Note: The District awaits guidance from our Governing Board on the issuance of future Situation Reports for the 2008 Water Shortage Emergency

CURRENT SITUATION:

Residents and businesses of Broward, Collier, Miami-Dade, Monroe, St. Lucie and coastal areas of Lee, Martin and Palm Beach counties are limited to a two-day-per-week landscape irrigation schedule with the option of two "watering windows." Due to continued concerns about local water resource availability, one-day-a-week watering remains in place for the utilities of Dania Beach, Hallandale Beach, Lake Worth and Lantana and portions of unincorporated Lee County, including the Lehigh Acres area. Agricultural and nursery water users in the Lake Okeechobee Service Area remain subject to modified Phase III restrictions. One-day-a-week landscape irrigation remains in place for residents and businesses in the Lake Okeechobee Service Area, which includes portions of Hendry, Glades, Okeechobee and western Palm Beach and Martin counties. Residents of Orange and Osceola counties should adhere to any water restrictions set by the St. Johns River Water Management District. Residents of Polk, Charlotte and Highlands counties should adhere to the water restrictions set by the Southwest Florida Water Management District; however residents and other entities located within the Indian Prairie Region, portions of the Kissimmee River Valley Water Use basin, and portions of the Lakeshore Perimeter Water Use Basin remain subject to Water Shortage Order 2007-684-DAO-WS. Golf courses, nurseries and agricultural users District-wide should follow SFWMD water use restrictions.

OPERATIONAL STATUS:

The District's Emergency Operations Center remains at a level 2 (partial) activation. The Citizen Information Line is activated during normal business hours (0800 hours to 1700 hours). The District awaits guidance from our Governing Board at their September meeting on continuing the activation of the Emergency Operations Center for the 2008 Water Shortage Emergency

WEATHER CONDITIONS:

The District received an average of 7.88 inches of rain from Tropical Storm Fay over the past week and 11.93 inches over the last 30 days (July 26 to August 24). So far, August 2008 has produced a District-wide average of 10.63 inches of rain; the historical District-wide rainfall for August, based on a 30-year average (1976-2005), is 7.54 inches.

Short Term Forecast:

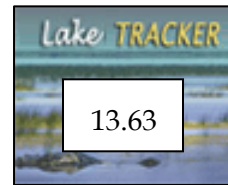
Widely scattered showers and thunderstorms focused interior west on Wednesday, then focused south and west through Saturday; highs around 90; lows in the 70s. The ten-day outlook is for near average rainfall with the forecast confidence being low.

Long Term Forecast:

Normal temperatures and above average probability for precipitation are forecast through September.

WATER LEVELS:

Water levels in the Upper Chain of Lakes are all above the top of their regulation schedules in response to rain from Tropical Storm Fay. Lake Istokpoga stage is above its regulation schedule. Upper East Coast canals (C-23, C-24 & C-25) are all well above the 14-foot water supply cutoff stage. Lake Okeechobee's water level rose sharply in response to Tropical Storm Fay; the lake has risen 2.93 feet since the last Situation Report. The current water level in the lake is 13.63 feet above sea level, which is 4.06 feet higher than on this date last year but still 1.92 feet below the period-of-record average for this time of the year (1962-2007).



Water levels at key locations throughout the District as of August 20, 2008 are noted in the table below; all values are reported in feet above sea level relative to the National Geodetic Vertical Datum 1929.

LOCATION	WATER LEVEL (ft)	CHANGE FROM PRE- VIOUS 2 WEEKS (ft)	CHANGE FROM PRE- VIOUS 4 WEEKS (ft)
LAKE OKEECHOBEE	12.22	1.44	1.83
LAKE ISTOKPOGA	38.75	0.42	0.31
WCA-1	16.85	0.50	0.53
WCA-2A	12.84	0.31	0.18
WCA-3A	11.11	0.54	0.92
CANAL C-23	20.85	-0.90	-0.74
CANAL C-24	18.61	1.20	1.47
CANAL C-25	19.75	0.13	-0.31

DISTRICT RESPONSE ACTIVITIES:

Infrastructure

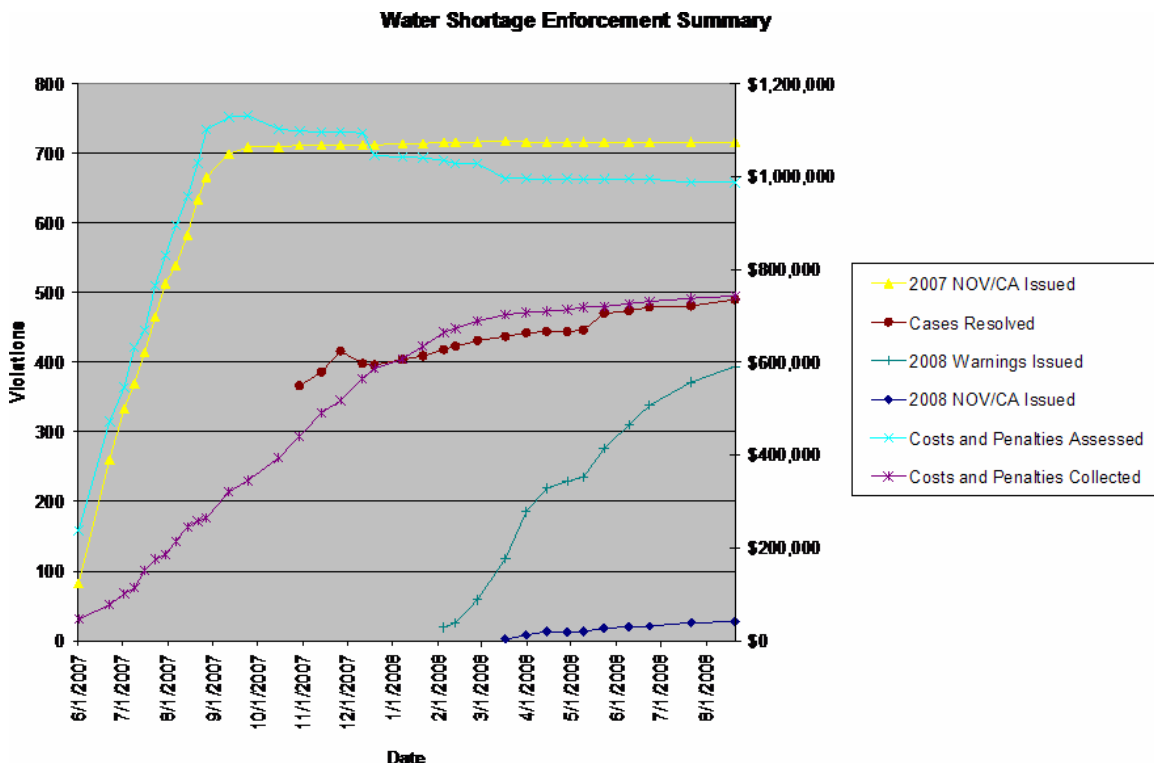
Construction of the S65E Tailwater Weir was completed on August 2, 2008 and the structure is operational.

Enforcement and Compliance - District

Continued ground surveillance activities to ensure compliance with Water Shortage Order No. 2008-166-DAO-WS.

Continued processing enforcement actions; as of August 20, 2008:

- 716 Notice of Violations issued for 2007
- \$987,095 civil penalties and costs assessed
- \$742,690 civil penalties and costs collected
- 490 cases resolved through Consent Agreements
- 394 Warning Notices issued in 2008
- 27 Notice of Violations issued for 2008



Golf Course Compliance

Four hundred seven golf courses, 10 polo fields and 1 college were monitored for weekly pumpage reporting.

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No violations were issued for the month of July 2008. Thirteen water restriction violations have been issued to golf courses since January 2008.

Agriculture and Nurseries

Staff contacted agricultural entities regarding the current water shortage conditions. Coordinated test run of pilot Florida Ranchlands Environmental Services Program water management alternative project.

Diversion & Impoundment / Pumping Authorizations

The Seminole Improvement District and the City of West Palm Beach continue to report their water withdrawals, as per the new orders, via the web portal and or facsimile.

L-8 Water / City of West Palm Beach

Because of high water levels in Grassy Waters Preserve since early July, the City of West Palm Beach has not requested authorization for water withdrawal at Control No. 2 Pumping Station to maintain target levels at the City's water supply lakes. The Grassy Water Preserve is currently at 18.5 feet NGVD.

Due to rainfall from Tropical Storm Fay, some washouts occurred west of Control No. 2 Pumping Station.

Continued agency coordination to route L8 Basin water through the L-8 Canal to Lake Okeechobee.

WCA-1 /Lake Worth Drainage District, Broward 298 Districts

Continued to coordinate with the Lake Worth Drainage District and Broward 298 Districts regarding water conservation.

Lake Istokpoga / Tribal Operations

Now that water levels have risen, environmental enhancement activities were initiated, which included the planting of 800 native pond apple trees in standing water northwest of Big Island in Lake Istokpoga. An in-house apple snail egg monitoring study is still underway and a University of West Florida team is evaluating the density and distribution of adult snails and eggs. A 2008 vegetation map continues to be developed.

Previously planned SFWMD torpedograss treatments at sites away from snail kite nesting/foraging areas on the north and east shorelines of Lake Istokpoga have been delayed into late August or early September. Numerous patches of torpedograss will be targeted so that they do not become vast monocultures.

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Due to increased rainfall, compliance inspections of the L-59, L-60 and L-61 canals have only been conducted on an as-needed basis. Staff have reviewed and accepted pumpage reports from those water users authorized to withdraw from District canals. No compliance issues were noted during this reporting period.

Indian Prairie Basin

With significant rains in the basin and Lake Istokpoga above its regulation level, the District allowed users to withdraw additional water supply.

No compliance issues were noted for the Indian Prairie Basin. The District notified the Tribe and other permitted users regarding water withdrawal availability after recent rainfall events. Staff continued to develop a revised water delivery plan for the South Indian Prairie Basin.

Lake Okeechobee Environmental Enhancement

Approximately 5,000 tires have been removed from Kraemer Island.

Variances

A minimal number of variances were submitted. The team reviewed and processed the applications as appropriate and referred the pertinent applications to the Executive Team.

The one variance was approved at the August Governing Board was sent an approval letter and certificate.

Continued to answer calls from the public on how to comply with the water restrictions or request a variance.

Navigation

Channel depths in Route 1 and Route 2 of the Okeechobee Waterway within Lake Okeechobee have increased significantly during the reporting period. As of August 24, 2008, the water depth in Route 1 is 7.35 feet and 4.75 feet in Route 2 (Rim Canal). Conditions for navigation will continue to improve as the lake level rises.

The Port Mayaca (S-308) and St. Lucie (S-80) navigation locks operated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers were temporarily closed in early July 2008 to install manatee protection systems. These locks are scheduled to re-open on August 29, 2008.

Access to Lake Okeechobee from public boat ramps is now possible due to increasing water levels.

Water Conditions Analysis

Conducted weekly monitoring of groundwater levels and chloride concentrations from the sentinel monitor-well network. Evaluated groundwater conditions based on this data and made recommendations as appropriate.

Public Water Supply Utilities

Continued analysis of utility water demand data to determine water savings in accordance with water shortage restrictions.

Stormwater Treatment Areas

Monitored stages in all cells of the Stormwater Treatment Areas and prioritized the cells for receiving inflow.

Financial

Water shortage expenditures through August 22, 2008 are shown below:

Activity Type	Expenditures
Water Shortage	\$444,850
LO Muck Removal	\$1,487,245
O&M Structures Repairs	\$20,799,608
Staffing	\$1,265,094
Total FY2008	\$23,996,796

Public Information - Media/Creative Services

Prepared and issued August press release updating water shortage conditions.

Continued to respond to media inquiries regarding Modified Phase II water restrictions/water shortage conditions with wet season (turn off sprinklers) messaging.

Continued to seek help from beat, environmental, gardening, living and outdoor reporters, as well as weather casters, to promote water conservation tips, including Modified Phase II water restriction reminders.

Continued to plan and schedule additional Service Center water shortage/water conservation media availabilities (e.g., mobile irrigation lab demonstrations, community events, Florida Yards and Neighbors water smart landscaping demonstration, etc.)

Continued to work through Service Center Liaison to distribute water restriction/water

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conservation existing and updated public information materials, e.g., aerators giveaways, existing Splash fact sheets, At-A-Glance fact sheets, water conservation-themed edition of Water Matters newspaper insert, displays, Speaker's Bureau presentations, etc.

Continued to encourage local media, community organizations and local governments to establish links to the District's Water Conservation web site (www.savewaterfl.com) and new Spanish web site on their respective sites through Service Center media/local government/outreach staff.

Continued internal communications, and outreach to Service Center community and local government.

Continued earned media opportunities, reporting and tracking; respond to public e-mails.

Public Information - Web Site

Continued to update water shortage/conservation web site with latest public information materials and information.

Liaison / Intergovernmental Coordination

The District's Service Centers worked with Code Enforcement Offices in our region to encourage continued enforcement of water restrictions. As of August 20, 2008, there have been 8,697 citations and 8,720 warnings issued bringing the total to 17,417 citations and warnings throughout the 16 county area for the year.

Legal

Drafted water shortage order modifying Order No. 2007-685-DAO-WS, requiring monthly reporting of weekly pumping volumes in the Indian Prairie Basin.

Drafted order approving and denying applications for variances from Order No. 2008-166-DAO-WS.

Received court order that approved stipulation for settlement in the matter of SFWMD v. Boca Pines Home Owners Association and closed the case.

Current SFWMD Water Restrictions are displayed in the attached map.

AUTHORIZATION:

Dean Powell
Incident Commander

Chip Merriam
Executive in Charge

SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

DISTRIBUTION:

Situation Report Mailing List

Water Restrictions - Effective April 18, 2008

